

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: September 25, 2020

Beeper

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, September 28th from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Yard of the Week

Today the Yard of the Week prize patrol selected the last recipient for the 2020 season. This week's Yard of the Week is located at 103 Village Drive. Thank you for all the great nominations this year. Remember all the Yard of the Week winners can be seen on the City's webpage. The 2021 Yard of the Week season will start the first full week in May 2021.

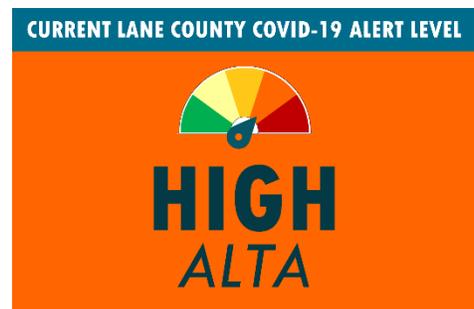
International City/County Management Association Annual Conference

This week the City Manager attended the International City/County Management Association Conference (ICMA) Annual Conference. The conference was held virtually and included keynote addresses and breakout sessions all week and will conclude on tomorrow. The prevailing theme throughout the conference was how to address the community impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. With additional themes of equity, resilience and wellbeing. On Monday, Lane County Administrator Steve Mokrohisky was a presenter on a panel "Redefining Leadership While Battling Two Pandemics". Steve was able to expand the topic to include a third disaster with the Holiday Farm Fire.

Lane County COVID-19 Case Increases

Lane County has increased the COVID-19 alert level from moderate to high this week as a result of the record number of new COVID-19 cases. Lane County Public Health is asking community members to take extra measures to limit contacts and modify daily activities to increase safety and reduce personal exposure. Lane County asked:

"We need your help and we ask that everyone in Lane County take necessary steps to be extra diligent in wearing a mask, keeping social distance, using good hygiene and limiting contacts outside your home. While we have higher numbers of people in the hospital (9 as of this afternoon), our hospital and PPE capacity is sufficient and not currently being stressed. We have a high number of unhoused people currently at our River Avenue facility for quarantine and isolation (11 as of this afternoon) and we are very grateful for the advance planning in establishing that resource for the community.



We are focused on community messaging this week, knowing that there is a time lag between behavior change and shifts in test results so we expect to remain at these higher levels for a few weeks as we engage the community in the work of flattening the curve and regaining control over the spread of disease.”

Halloween Planning

City Staff joined the Chamber of Commerce, MainStreet and other local business owners and community leaders (which included a 12 year old young man that contacted the Mayor) to consider possible activities or events in the community for Halloween. The meeting was held prior to Lane County’s announcement regarding the COVID-19 alert level. A plan was developed to have a Trick or Treat Cruise on Main Street where Trick or Treaters would remain in their vehicles and cruise single file down Main Street with businesses and community groups handing pre-assembled treat bags to the car. All safety protocols would be followed in preparing the bags and in distributing the bags to the vehicles. Planning will continue on the October 31st event. The situation will continue to be monitored as we approach the event. Please stay tuned for status and possible details.

Plaque dedication for Councilor Ehler Tomorrow

Please join the Mayor and City Council tomorrow, September 26th, at 10:00 am in front of the City Shop on 14th Street, for the dedication of the Bicycle Fixit Station in the name of Councilor Bob Ehler who passed away in May.

Secretary of State Newsletter on Preparing for the November 3, 2020 General Election

Secretary of State Bev Clarno has prepared a newsletter on preparing for the November 3, 2020 General Election. The newsletter is attached and covers Wildfires in Oregon, Elections in Oregon, Voters’ Pamphlet, Paper Ballots, County Election Officials and Vote by Mail.

Cottage Grove Armory Update

Last Sunday during a heavy rainstorm the Armory roof leaked causing water damage to the ceiling and floor in the small room next to the foyer in the main entrance. Water damage also occurred in the shower room directly below the upstairs room. Belfor, a local company specializing in water damage restoration, is currently drying the areas that were flooded. Once the areas are dried the damage to the rooms will be repaired.

The current remodel work in the entryway and rooms on the 1st floor along Washington Street is progressing well. Big Picture Construction is currently painting the rooms. Once completed the heating system, lights, doors, and wood trim will be installed. The floors in the entryway and remodeled rooms will be sanded and refinished. Last but not least new entryway doors will be installed. The work is planned to be completed by the end of the year.

TGM Grant Award

The City of Cottage Grove Public Works & Development Department learned today that we were awarded a 2020 Transportation Growth Management (TGM) Grant by the Oregon Department of Transportation. This \$200,000 grant is for the development of a comprehensive city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, designed to transform Cottage Grove’s existing outdated, vehicle-oriented transportation system into a robust, multi-modal system that emphasizes multi-modal connectivity, safety, accessibility, and community health.

The Plan will include: goals and objectives for the bike/pedestrian system; mapping of existing conditions; ranking of projects based on a GIS scoring system developed through community input; alternative scenario evaluation; preferred project list and implementation plan, including funding mechanisms; and recommendations for local code amendments to meet identified goals in future development.

Development of the plan will include the hiring of a consultant firm that will lead the community through the process. A Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be formed, and there will be many opportunities for community members to chime in on issues, priorities, and proposed project ideas. We hope to have a consultant chosen by Spring 2021. Adoption will occur in the fall of 2022.

For more information on the grant or proposed plan, please contact Amanda Ferguson, City Planner, at planner@cottagegrove.org or call (541) 942-3340.

Swinging Bridge Project Award

The Swinging Bridge project was awarded the 2020 Project of the Year Award by the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Congratulations to every citizen of Cottage Grove that had the vision to push the dream into reality. Thank you to Mr. Dana Merryday and the entire Friends of the Cottage Grove committee who deserve recognition for their tireless advocacy and fundraising for the restoration project. The Mayor, City Council and other decision makers were integral in applying to the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department for \$200,000 in grant funds, without which the project would have had a very difficult time being funded in the first place. And the design and construction professionals at The Ausland Group and Hamilton Construction were uniquely qualified to assemble the beautiful bridge.

The project, completed on-time and budget, is a testament to how the entire design and construction team, along with key stakeholders, listened to citizens' concerns that the bridge closely adhere to the rich logging, rail and mining history of Cottage Grove, while also emphasizing safety and cost-effective longevity.

Oh, and we understood that the suspension bridge “had better swing” too.

Cheers to everyone that worked so hard on the project.

The Swinging Bridge project will always remain a wonderful example of “*team.*”

Recycled Water Storage and Pump Station Project

R&G Excavation has remained on scheduled, completing the construction of the storage pond this week. The next steps include the completion of the pond liner. To catch up from delays caused by the recent snow and rain, the subcontractor will be working this weekend.

The wastewater plant plans to begin storing treated effluent by mid-October, and the remaining portion of the project, including construction of two large water pump stations, will be completed by the end of January, 2021.

Millions of gallons of treated effluent will be stored because discharge to the Willamette River is extremely limited during the warm months of the year. During these months of storage the City will also have greater capacity to pump the treated water to the City’s golf course, ODOT’s I-5

interchange and various City parks. Construction on these transmission pipes will begin in spring, 2021.

Water Treatment Expansion Project

The expansion of the Water Treatment Plant is nearing completion by Pacific Excavation, effectively expanding the City's ability to produce potable water by two million gallons of water per day, for a total of six million gallons per day. Citizens will have greater assurance that water supplies will match increasing growth and demand, as well as increase our capacity to provide fire protection when needed.

Safe Routes to School & Fillmore Stormwater Outfall Project Update September 28

On Monday, a Wildish crew worked on installing a new sanitary sewer main down South 4th Street. On Tuesday, the crew worked on lowering a water main at South 6th and Fillmore so the 27-inch storm drainage main could continue. They spent the rest of the week working on installing the 27-inch main as well as installing a storm drainage vault. Next week work will continue on installing the storm drainage main east to South 7th Street on Fillmore Avenue.

Concrete work was performed by other Wildish crews. They poured the southern driveway approach for Lincoln School as well as half the main entrance at the school. Residential driveways begin Thursday. Curb and gutter was poured at the intersection of South 4th Street and Grant Avenue.

Next week, concrete work will continue with residential driveways and will begin placing sidewalks. Also, a crew will begin the final preparation of the road section. It is possible late in the week, the base course of asphalt will be placed.

Reminder: If there are concerns, questions, complaints or need assistance through the construction, please contact Zach Ireland or Ron Bradsby at (541) 942-3349.

City Recorder Attends Virtual Training

This week the City Recorder attended the annual Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders virtual conference with recorders through the State. Due to COVID-19 there were no breakout sessions, instead two academy sessions each focusing on one subject were held. The City Recorder attended the academy session: *Dealing With Difficult People – Conscious Communication to Bring Out the Best in People (Even at their Worst)*.

Quote of the Week:

"Daughters are angels sent from above to fill our heart with unending love."

~ J. Lee~